

## Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 /036 W

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P R 141350Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL TANGIER

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3066

UNCLAS TANGIER 0201

DEPT FOR AF/W FROM EASUM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR NI

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

REF.: LAGOS 3353 AND 4249

1. FOLLOWING ARE PROPOSED REVISED REMARKS FOR CREDENTIALS CEREMONY:

2. QUOTE: IT IS MY HONOR AND GREAT PLEASURE TO PRESENT TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE LETTERS OF CREDENCE BY WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES ACCREDITS ME AS HIS AMBASSADOR TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA. I ALSO TRANSMIT PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER OF RECALL OF MY DISTINGUISHED PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR REINHARDT, WHO NOW OCCUPIES A KEY POSITION OF SENIOR RESPONSIBILITY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN WASHINGTON.

3. ALL WHO HAVE A SENSE OF HISTORY HOPE FOR A CHANCE TO WITNESS THE UNFOLDING OF MAJOR EVENTS AND THE ARLY STAGES OF LASTING TRENDS. THOSE WHO LIVE IN NIGERIA TODAY HAVE THAT GOOD FORTUNE, AND I AM PROUD AND HAPPY TO BE AMONG THEM. NIGERIA IS MOVING WITH VIGOR AND CONFIDENCE TOWARD INEVITABLE ECONOMIC STRENGTH, CARRYING WITHIN ITS BORDERS ONE-FOURTH OF ALL OF AFRICA'S PEOPLE TO A HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING, AND WE HERE TODAY WILL WATCH IT HAPPEN. NIGERIA'S RICH CULTURAL TRADITIONS AND VALUES WILL CLOAK THAT MATERIAL PROGRESS WITH A SOCIAL MEANING THAT WILL PRODUCE NOT ONLY A HIGHER STANDARD

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OF LIVING BUT A HIGHER QUALITY OF LIFE, AND WE HERE TODAY WILL WATCH IT HAPPEN. NIGERIA WILL MORE AND MORE TAKE ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE OF INFLUENCE IN THE COUNCILS OF NATIONS, CONTRIBUTING THE WISDOM OF ITS OWN EXPERIENCE IN ACCOMODATING A VARIETY

OF GROUPS AND INTERESTS INTO A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COMMON EFFORT,  
AND WE HERE TODAY WILL WATCH THAT HAPPEN, TOO.

4. THE UNITED STATES IS FOLLOWING WITH GREAT INTEREST YOUR  
CURRENT ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOP-  
MENT, PARTICULARLY AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE THIRD NATIONAL DEVELOP-  
MENT PLAN AND THE PLAN FOR UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION. I LOOK  
FORWARD TO DOING WHAT I CAN TO FORTIFY MY COUNTRY'S SUPPORT OF  
THESE ENDEAVORS IN WAYS YOU DEEM USEFUL.

5. THE UNITED STATES MARCHES WITH NIGERIA IN PART BECAUSE WE  
HEAR THE SAME DRUMMER. THOMAS PAINE, THOMAS JEFFERSON, AND  
OTHER AMERICAN REVOLUTIONISTS WERE NOT UNKNOWN IN THE LITERATURE  
OF NIGERIA'S INDEPENDENCE. MY COUNTRY AND YOURS SHARE THE  
GREAT SOCIAL EXPERIMENT OF FEDERALISM WHEREBY WE SEEK TO SECURE  
FOR OUR PEOPLES THE GREAT ABUNDANCE OF UNITY WITHOUT SACRIFICING  
THE SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS OF VARIETY. AND AS MAJOR COUNTRIES IN  
OUR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE GLOBE, NIGERIA AND THE UNITED STATES  
BOTH HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY FOR SPECIAL MATURITY OF WISDOM IN  
OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHERS.

6. THE AFRICAN ANTECEDENTS OF AMERICAN CULTURE HAVE STRONG  
ROOTS HERE IN NIGERIA. FOR THIS REASON AND FOR MANY OTHERS  
WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SECOND WORLD BLACK AND AFRICAN  
FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE TO BE HELD HERE. WE WISH  
THE FESTIVAL ALL POSSIBLE SUCCESS. MAY I MENTION, YOUR  
EXCELLENCY, THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL ALSO BE CELEBRATING A  
GREAT FESTIVAL IN THE NEAR FUTURE, OUR 200TH ANNIVERSARY AS AN  
INDEPENDENT COUNTRY. THE EVENTS OF 1776 SIGNED A DECOLONIZA-  
TION PROCESS THAT HAD GREAT SIGNIFICANCE FOR MANY NATIONS  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. WE ARE PERSUADED THAT BOTH THE BICENTEN-  
NIAL AND THE FESTIVAL WILL CONTRIBUTE IN IMPORTANT WAYS TO  
STRENGTHENED FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

7. MY GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE THE GREATEST  
ADMIRATION FOR THE REMARKABLE SUCCESS THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS  
ACHIEVED IN NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND REINTEGRATION. YOUR  
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PERSONAL LEADERSHIP IN THIS EFFORT HAS WON FOR YOU A HIGH  
PLACE AMONG WORLD STATESMEN. STATEMANSHIP HAS BEEN ALSO EVIDENT  
IN NIGERIA'S ACTIONS ON THE WORLD STAGE. YOUR GOVERNMENT'S  
CONSTRUCTIVE AND SKILLFUL DIPLOMACY HAS NURTURED ECONOMIC  
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FAR-FLUNG COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN,  
AFRICAN AND PACIFIC REGIONS. ON THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA -- IN  
THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND IN ITS BILATERAL RELATIONS  
WITH AFRICAN STATES -- NIGERIA IS A LEADER, NOT ONLY BECAUSE  
OF ITS RESOURCES AND THE ENERGY AND TALENTS OF ITS PEOPLE,  
BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF NIGERIA'S MORAL STATURE AND ITS FIRM  
COMMITMENT TO THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IN THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND ELSEWHERE NIGERIAN COUNSEL COMMANDS RESPECT, FOR IT  
COMBINES PRAGMATISM WITH PRINCIPLE.

8. YOUR EXCELLENCY, YOU CAN COUNT ON ME TO DEVOTE MY MOST  
ENERGETIC, WHOLE-HEARTED AND IMAGINATIVE EFFORTS TO THE ENRICH-  
MENT OF THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS. YOU CAN ALSO  
LOOK TO ME, IN OUR DIALOGUE TOGETHER, FOR OBJECTIVITY AND  
CANDOR. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO EXPECT THE SAME FROM MY STAFF.  
AND I WOULD WANT NOTHING LESS FROM YOU. ONLY IN SUCH AN  
ENVIRONMENT AS THIS CAN OUR COLLABORATION BEST SERVE THE  
INTERESTS OF OUR COUNTRIES. AND ONLY THUS CAN WE BEST RESPOND  
TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE INDEPENDENCE THAT LINKS US WITH  
EACH OTHER IN AN INCREASINGLY INTERDEPENDENT WORLD. UNQUOTE.

9. THE TERM "YOUR EXCELLENCY" HAS BEEN ADDED BY AF. I AM  
NOT HAPPY WITH IT UNLESS ITS USAGE IS COMMON PRACTICE. HOW  
ABOUT "MR. CHAIRMAN"? ARE THERE OTHER ALTERNATIVES?EASTMAN

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